

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 15, 16, 19 and 20 and add claim 25. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A tower crane device comprising:

a basket supporting a tower crane; and

a plurality of support stubs with each support stub attached to one of a plurality of respective vertical ~~column~~ columns of a structure under construction, wherein the basket rests on the support stubs.

Claim 2. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of outriggers attached to the basket and spaced apart from each other with each outrigger being supported by the respective support stub.

Claim 3. (previously presented) The tower crane device according to claim 2, further comprising a plurality of clamps each operable to secure the basket to the respective support stub.

Claim 4. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of outriggers attached to the basket and spaced apart from each other with each outrigger including a foot member operable to extend over and rest on the respective support stub.

Claim 5. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 4, wherein each support stub comprises a first stub member and a second stub member positioned at substantially right angle to the first stub member.

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Claim 6. (canceled)

Claim 7. (currently amended) The tower crane device according to claim 1, wherein the basket includes:

an upper frame;

a ~~lower~~ an outer frame having a larger diameter than the upper frame; and

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a plurality of arms coupling the upper frame to the ~~lower~~ outer frame with each arm extending toward a respective support stub.

Claim 8. (currently amended) The tower crane device according to claim 1, wherein the basket is a first basket, further comprising:

a second basket slidably coupled to a tower; and

a plurality of additional support stubs with each support stub attached to one of a plurality of respective vertical ~~column~~ columns of the structure under construction and supporting the second basket.

Claim 9. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 8, further comprising:

a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower; and

a lifter attached to the second basket and the climbing frame, the lifter operable to:

raise the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the second basket is in a stationary position; and

raise the second basket with respect to the tower while the climbing frame is in a stationary position.

Claim 10. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 9 wherein after the second basket is raised the lifter is further operable to raise the first basket using the climbing frame while the second basket is in a stationary position.

Claim 11. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 8, further comprising:

a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower;

a frame locker having an unlocked position and a locked position that locks the climbing frame to the tower;

a basket locker having an unlocked position and a locked position that locks the second basket to the tower;

a lifter attached to the second basket and the climbing frame, the lifter operable to:

raise the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the frame locker is in the unlocked position and the basket locker is in the locked position; and

raise the second basket with respect to the tower while the frame locker is in the locked position and the basket locker is in the unlocked position.

Claim 12. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 11 wherein after the second basket is raised the lifter is further operable to raise the first basket with respect to the tower while the frame locker is in the locked position and the basket locker is in the unlocked position.

Claim 13. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 12 wherein the frame locker comprises a first dog attached to one side of the climbing frame and a second dog attached to another side of the climbing frame.

Claim 14. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 12 wherein:

the frame locker includes a first dog attached to one side of the climbing frame and a second dog attached to another side of the climbing frame; and

the basket locker includes two dogs attached to different sides of the second basket.

Claim 15. (currently amended) A tower crane device comprising:

a first basket operable to support a tower crane;

a plurality of first outriggers attached to the first basket and spaced apart from each other, each first outrigger having a foot; and

a plurality of first support stubs with each first support stub mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical column columns of a structure under construction, wherein each first outrigger foot rests on a respective first support stub.

Claim 16. (currently amended) The tower crane device according to claim 15, wherein the first basket includes:

an upper frame;

~~a lower~~ an outer frame having a larger diameter than the upper frame; and

a plurality of arms coupling the upper frame to the ~~lower~~ outer frame with each arm extending toward a respective support stub.

Claim 17. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 16, further comprising:

a second basket slidably coupled to the tower crane and spaced apart from the first basket; and

a plurality of second outriggers attached to the second basket and spaced apart from each other, each second outrigger having a foot; and

a plurality of second support stubs with each second support stub mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical ~~column~~ columns of the structure under construction, each second outrigger foot resting on a respective second support stub.

Claim 18. (original) The tower crane device according to claim 17, further comprising:

a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower crane;

a lifter attached to the second basket and the climbing frame, the lifter operable to:

raise the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the second basket is in a stationary position; and

raise the second basket with respect to the tower while the climbing frame is in the stationary position.

Claim 19. (currently amended) A tower crane device comprising:

a first basket supporting a tower crane;

a plurality of first outriggers attached to corners of the first basket and spaced apart from each other, each first outrigger having a foot; and

a plurality of first support stubs with each first support stub mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical ~~column~~ columns of a structure under construction, wherein each foot rests on and is in compression with a respective first support stub.

Claim 20. (currently amended) A tower crane device comprising:

a lower basket operable to support a tower crane; and

a plurality of lower support stubs with each lower support stub mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical ~~column~~ columns of a structure under construction, the lower support stubs supporting the lower basket to distribute the weight of the tower crane on the plurality of vertical columns of the structure;

an upper basket slidably coupled to the tower crane; and

a plurality of upper support stubs with each upper support stub mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical ~~column~~ columns of the structure, the upper support stubs supporting the second basket.

Claim 21. (original) A tower crane device for a concrete structure, comprising:

a basket operable to support a tower crane;

a plurality of outriggers attached to the basket and spaced apart from each other, each outrigger having a foot;

a plurality of support holes disposed on columns of the concrete structure with each support hole receiving a respective outrigger foot.

Claims 22. (withdrawn) A method of lifting a tower crane extending through an opening in structure of a building under construction, comprising:

resting a first basket supporting a tower on vertical columns of a structure;

resting a second basket on the vertical columns of the structure, the second basket being slidable with respect to the tower;

providing a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower;

raising the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the second basket is in a stationary position; and

raising the second basket with respect to the tower while the climbing frame is in a stationary position.

Claim 23. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, further comprising repeating the steps of raising the climbing frame and raising the second basket until the second basket reaches a desired level.

Claim 24. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, further comprising raising the first basket using the climbing frame while the second basket is in a stationary position.

Claim 25. (new) A tower crane device comprising:

a basket supporting a tower crane; and

C 4 a plurality of support stubs with each support stub attached to one of a plurality of respective vertical columns of a structure under construction, each of the plurality of support stubs including a first stub member and a second stub member positioned at a substantially right angle to the first stub member, wherein the basket rests on the plurality of support stubs.
